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September 8, 2011

Delta Stewardship Council
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1500
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Serious Concerns about the draft Delta Plan

Dear Chairman Isenberg and Members of the Council:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas), I am writing to express our concern with the draft Delta Plan under development by the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC). Calleguas delivers over 100,000 acre feet of imported water to more than 600,000 Ventura County residents of the cities of Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Moorpark, Camarillo, Oxnard and Port Hueneme. While Calleguas, working collaboratively with other local agencies, has made considerable progress in recent years developing new local water resources and promoting water use efficiency, our service area remains highly dependent on imported State water.

Though the fifth draft plan improves upon previous drafts, we are greatly concerned it will not meet the co-equal goals of improved water supply reliability and Delta ecosystem health in its current form. Of particular concern is that the draft plan is vague about what kind of water supply we can expect in the future. After decades of dispute and indecision, our hope and expectation was that the current Delta planning process would finally lead to greater certainty with respect to State Water supplies which is fundamental for agencies such as Calleguas to prudently plan for meeting the water needs of current and future Californian's.

Moreover, we also find it deeply troubling that the plan attempts to dictate local water management decisions in a variety of areas from rate structures to recycling targets. This level of micromanagement from Sacramento undercuts local planning efforts hundreds of miles from the Delta. As such, we encourage the DSC to focus its energy instead on improving the reliability of Delta water supplies and the region's deteriorating ecosystem.

We respectfully urge the DSC to fully consider these concerns and discuss the Alternate Delta Plan developed by statewide water, business and agricultural interests through the Ag-Urban Coalition. We urge DSC members to work with the coalition to identify the best options for meeting the co-equal goals for the sake of our water supply, our economy and our environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan B. Mulligan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Susan B. Mulligan
General Manager

cc: CMWD Board of Directors